THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Private Sector proposals of aggregate wind power capacity of 670 MW are under discussion with the following State Govts.

(i)	350 MW
(ii) Andhra Pradesh	228 MW
(iii) Tamil Naru	43 MW
(iv) Kerala	25 MW
(v) Karnataka	24 MW

(c) Private Sector Wind Power Projects of total capacity 40 MW have so far been installed and a capacity of 30 MW is under installation. These projects have been taken up in the States of Tamil Nadu and Gujarat after obtaining necessary clearances of the respective State Govts. The capacity of each Private Sector project taken up so far varies between 250 KW to 8 MW.

(d) The incentives from the Central Government mainly include 100 per cent accelerated depreciation, Customs Duty concessions and soft loans from Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA). Certain States have introduced incentives like banking wheeling and buy back of the energy generated. The Ministry has suggested guidelines to all the States for introduction of uniform incentives including a minimum buy back rate to encourage private sector participation.

Wind Power Potential in the Country

3201. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total wind power potential in the country and what is the percentage of total power generated currently;

(b) whether it is a fact that power generation through wind energy is less than 100 MW at present; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the details of power generation at present though the wind energy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The total wind power potential in the country has been estimated as 20,000 MW. This is about 30 per cent of the present power generating installed capacity of th ecountry.

(b) and (c) A wind power capacity of 80 MW has so far been installed. The wind power programme is of present origin and involves development of a new technology. It has started picking up rapidly only now. The 8th Plan target has been revised to 500 MW from the original target of 100 MW on the basis of likely increase of budgetary support or demonstration projects and increased private sector participation. The explanation of the full potential will depend upon several factors such as identification of sites, availability of suitable grid, increased private sector participation and introduction of suitable policies & promotional incentives by the State Governments.

Electricity Generation Through Solar Ponds

3202. SHRI RAJENDRA PRASAD MODY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian scientists are developing a solar pond designed to generate electricity;

(b) if so, the proposed location of the pond;

(c) the names of States which are most suitable for solar ponds; and

(d) the likely role of solar ponds in meeting energy needs in India in future considering the total power that can be generated by this means?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (d) R & D cum demonstration projects on Solar Ponds,